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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/075,853	02/13/2002	Kazunari Shiota	FUJA 19.446	1070

7590 11/30/2005
Rosenman & Colin LLP
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EXAMINER

PHUNKULH, BOB A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2661	

DATE MAILED: 11/30/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sasaki (US 6,556,568).

Regarding claims 1 and 5, Sasaki discloses a method/multiplexing apparatus for multiplexing data from a plurality of input channels that can differ in data phase and/or bit rate into a serial signal, comprising:

storing the data, respectively arriving from the plurality of input channels, into separate memories respectively (storing the data at the transmitting cell buffers 124 or 128, see figure 2) ; and

retrieving the data from the respective memories in a predetermined order, and multiplexing the data, together with timing data indicating the presence of the data, into a serial signal of a frame structure having time slots fixedly assigned to the respective input channels (retrieving the data from the buffers 124 or 128 and multiplexing with a signal from the address generating circuit 129, see figure 2).

Allowable Subject Matter

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Claims 2-4, 6-8 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

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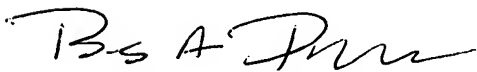
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Bob A. Phunkulh** whose telephone number is **(571) 272-3083**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Tuesday from 8:00 A.M.

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to 5:00 P.M. (first week of the bi-week) and Monday-Friday (for second week of the bi-week).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor **Chau Nguyen**, can be reach on **(571) 272-3126**. The fax phone number for this group is **(571) 273-8300**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Bob A. Phunkulh
Primary Examiner
TC 2600
Art Unit 2661
November 23, 2005